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To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
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Subject: Microsoft Judgement

I am very disappointed to learn that the Justice Department is providing Microsoft with a leg-up on its way to becoming a more deeply entrenched monopoly.

To consider Microsoft giving computers to schools a "punishment" is foolish. It merely provides the following:

- 1> Pushes out competition for school sales, among the most notable victims, Apple.
- 2> Rewards Microsoft by providing them with an assured customer base as a result of indoctrinating students into the operating system and programs of one company.
- 3> Encourages students to think that Microsoft is endorsed by the schools systems, as well as state and federal governments.
- 4> Demonstrates that the government supports, rather than condemns monopolistic practices.

A better solution would be to have Microsoft provide FUNDING to school systems, earmarked for purchase of technology and educational materials, without any encouragement towards, discouragement from, or reference to specific brands.

Make it clear that Microsoft is not giving this funding out of the goodness of its corporate heart, but rather as a punishment for illegal and immoral business practices. This must be a lesson in civics, not an example of how to work around the system to get what you want.

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